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The south is behind us; the east, ~~to~~ the right
hand, & the west to the left.

Lesson IX.

Why the sun rises & sets.

Lesson X. Mid-day Lines.

Part II. Map Lessons. 71.

Lesson XX

The Atlantic Ocean

The Atlantic Ocean is much smaller,
than the Pacific, but is more important
to us English ships are continually
coming & going upon it, & can get to
other waters, only by passing through
the Atlantic.

The bed is unlike that of the Pacific.
The high places do not often rise into
mountains which show above water
as groups of islands, but they are
long level heights, a great way wide,
water, although much higher than the
rest of the ocean bottom. Along one of
these levels the telegraph cable is laid by
which messages are sent to America.

He-He

by the Zinder Zee was dry land down
to the 13th century. The paly of Dollart in
the province of Groningen was ~~dry~~ the result
of the inundation of 1277, which swallowed
up forty-four villages; & several times since
has this province suffered from similar
^{in the same way} calamities. The ~~annals of the province~~
of Friesland ~~however~~ ^{has been yet more unfortunate} present the most
~~extraordinary series of disasters from~~
the ocean: over thirty inundations are
on record - three sometimes occurring in
^{one} a single year, & as many as 150,000
persons ^{having been} ~~being~~ sometimes carried off by
a single flood.

But Holland is exposed to internal
floods even more disastrous than
these, caused by the blocking up of
the rivers by the ice when the thaw
sets in. All the ice of the Rhine & Meuse
must necessarily pass the Dutch
rivers: if the ice on the German Rhine
lets loose before these are free, it forms
itself into one solid dam stretching
from bank to bank, sometimes two
miles or more in length, adhering to
the bed of the river, & rising in ice-bergs
high above its surface, so as to arrest
the passage of the water, which, as it
rises, must necessarily overflow
the dyke behind it. In 1779, the ice
Rhine rose at Mynster seven feet in one day
& when the waters at last broke the
ice-dam

ice-dam. They hurried down ice-bergs ^{18p30mc34}
that ~~will~~ ^{will} last so to rise above the houses of
Dijmegen. This inundation threatened the
very existence of a large part of Holland
which, on both banks of the Rhine & Waal
was laid under water; the ice-bergs
crossed the polders, sweeping away
houses that had been built on the
dykes, & the loss of life of men & cattle
was enormous: and this is a danger
which recurs every winter.

A stranger can ^{make out} ~~have~~ ^{form an idea} a full impression
of the continual ^{only} ~~danger~~ ^{risk} of inundation
when he walks at the foot of one of
these vast dykes, & hears the sea
roaring outside sixteen or twenty
feet above his head. In like manner
the actual bed of the Rhine is, in some
parts, several feet above the surrounding
country: the river flows on the top
of a sort of natural embankment-
formed by the deposits brought down
by itself in the course of ages.
Holland is so intercrossed with canals,
that, to a person looking down from a
balloon, they would have the appearance
of a network stretching over the whole
country: not narrow canals, wide enough
for a couple of barges, as in England,
but great water-passages, sixty feet
across, & raised high above the
adjoining country, for the water is
pumped up off the plains to these high ^{high}
dams.

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drains, or rather, raised by the water. wheels,
attached to windmills. ^{the object of} These innumerable
canals are made ^{to} in the first place, to
carry off the superfluous water of the
country; they also serve as means
of communication, & every village has
water-ways which connect it with all
the places ^{in its neighbourhood} round it. In winter, ^{these}
these canals serve a pleasant purpose;
the Dutch excel in skating & not only
slide from village to village ^{to} upon their business in this way,
but run races, perhaps of a score of
miles, & perform a variety of dances
& figures, balancing vases or baskets
on their heads the while, to show their
dexterity. ~~But~~ all about their skating,
& sledging, & the curious ice-boats
of Holland, & the pleasant ways of
the Dutch people may be read at large
in the story of "The Silver Skates".

The canals serve a third use. They
act as walls, or hedges: fields, gardens,
& houses are surrounded by canals
or moats, as, in other countries, by
fences; & they afford an even better
protection.

On more defence Holland enjoys
against its irrepressible enemy—
this time, a natural bulwark, the
Dunes, or sand-banks which extend
along the coast of Holland from
Dunbar, nearly without interruption, [&]
to the Scheldt. These vary in breadth from
one

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was so rich & splendid: the city is still famous for its beautiful Cathedral.

Further down in the Leas, rising among the marshes of Ely Isle, was the great Abbey of Ely, where the glorious Minster still stands. Very handy was this Abbey for the Danes, for in those days, the sea came up to the very walls of Ely; & one of the oldest war songs we have left, how the Northmen heard the monks chanting their hymns as they rowed at night round the Abbey walls. Then, in Ely too, there was Ramsey Abbey, with its learned monks, nor were these all: the Lady Godiva had the music of many convent bells around her, & she had many monks & priests to advise her; some, holy & good, & some, only proudly of fair.

Dear as the monks were to his mother, young Hereward, her son, loved them not: while he was yet a boy, his mother thought to make him a monk, & sent him to his uncle Brand, who was Abbot of Peterborough. The boy loved his uncle & his uncle loved him; but the king had brought many German monks into the land, those days were not the days of the English people. At Peterborough, was one of these Germans, named Herlewin, who did a cruel thing to the boy. ~~which~~ he

Of whom the law of England should have
no care, but any man might slay him
or take what was his.

It was bitter enough to young Hereward when
he found that, for his lawless ways, he
had no more a place in his own home or
his own land; & that he must go forth
to seek his fortune without his mother's
kiss or his father's blessing.

We have no room to tell of all the strange
things that befel him over sea;— how he
fought for foreign kings in strange lands;
how he slew a white bear whose coat
he ever afterwards slept upon; how he
became a mighty warrior that no man
could stand before. How he won a
lovely lady to be his bride; how she
gave him a coat of magic armour, so
consumingly wrought that neither sword
nor axe could pierce it. How,
wherever peace little was sought, there
was Hereward the Wake, & how he was
always victor, so that men everywhere
feared his name & his mighty strength.

While Hereward was yet an outlaw,
there were sad doings in England; the
Confessor had died, & William the Norman
had crossed the sea with his ships, &
Hastings fight had been fought; and
the Norman knights were everywhere seizing
houses